

Soil and Water Conservation Commission Cost Share Committee
July 8, 2014: 8:30am

Teleconference: [\(919\)420-1375](tel:9194201375)

Webinar: <https://agr.ncgovconnect.com/csc/>

Attendees: Julie Henshaw, Davis Ferguson, Vicky Porter, Pat Harris, Gavin Thompson, Jason Walker, David Williams, Natalie Woolard, Kelly Ibrahim

Draft Minutes

1. Consideration of February 2014 meeting minutes
Approved by consensus.
2. Conservation Planning update
Internal meeting held with NRCS to discuss planning objectives and expectations. Will be working with NCDEA, NCASWCD, and other partners to develop recommendations and requirements. Training will be a large part of this effort. Tim Beard with NRCS and Pat Harris with DSWC will be presenting conservation planning at the Conservation Employees Training in August 2014.
3. Technical assistance
At the February meeting, the committee discussed different scenarios that should be run to help evaluate different options for technical assistance allocations. Committee members requested a special in-person meeting to further discuss the technical assistance rule revisions and allocation methodologies. This meeting will be held in Raleigh on September 16, 2014 at 1:00pm.
4. Rule consolidation process
The division is in the process of revising commission cost share program rules. The current draft will combine all programs into Subchapter D and will repeal subchapter H. The department received feedback from the Rules Review Commission staff attorneys and will be incorporating their revisions before moving forward with the formal rules revision process. This information will be presented to the commission at upcoming meetings.
5. Program Development & Eligibility Policies – last section of the manual to review
 - a. Introducing new or revised BMPs to cost share programs: The committee revised the policy and is available for review on the website.
 - b. New and expanded operations: the committee discussed this policy, and the group would like to revisit during their September meeting. They also suggested considering combining the *New and expanded operations policy* and *Use of cost share program funds on new site (not new operation) policy* or removing text and including a reference to the other policy.
 - c. Policy on program outreach: The committee made a minor wording revision, but had discussion about the purpose of this policy and if it remains where it should be located. Additionally, the committee discussed if a more descriptive policy that states requirements for promoting the program should be drafted.

6. The committee discussed a name change to the following policy: Commission advisory to districts on secondary employment. The committee voted to support changing the name of this policy to: Commission guidelines for secondary employment.
7. Future meeting agenda topics:
 - a. Program Development & Eligibility Policies – last section of the manual to review
 - i. Introducing new or revised BMPs to cost share programs
 - ii. Policy on program outreach
 - iii. New and expanded operations
 - iv. Commission guidance for .0200 certified operations
 - v. Supplemental allocation of cost share financial assistance
 - vi. Strategy plan
 - b. Cost Share allocation rule revisions
 - c. District assessment – score cards